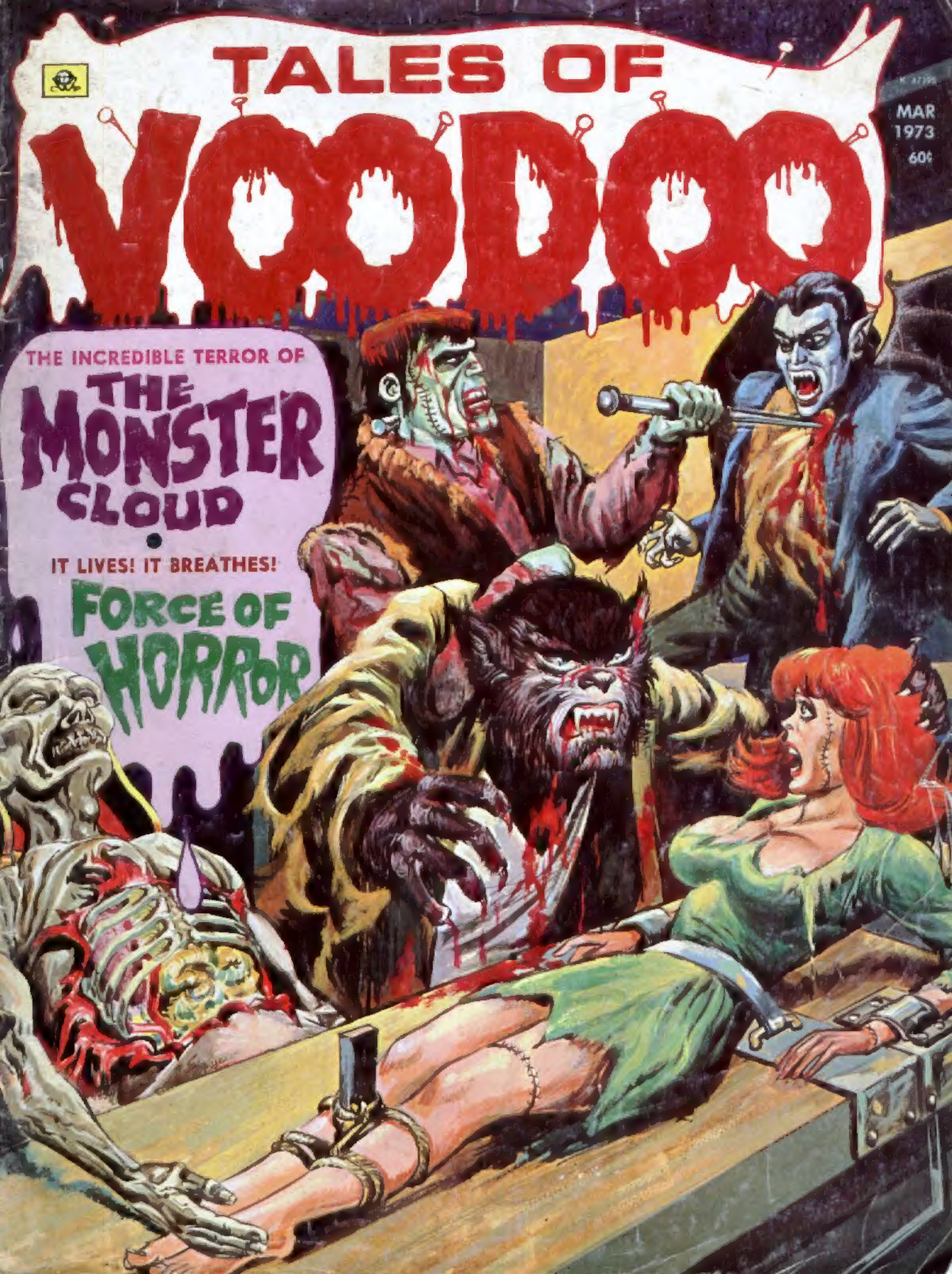
TALES OF VOODOO

MAR 1973
60¢

THE INCREDIBLE TERROR OF
THE MONSTER CLOUD

IT LIVES! IT BREATHES!
FORCE OF HORROR



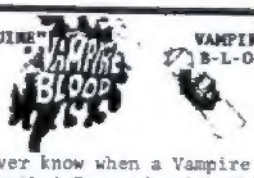
KING KONG

This full size wall poster is terrifying enough to be beautiful. Your room or den NEEDS this famous movie favorite--complete with steely, glinting eyes, and man-eating teeth. There is also the terrible Beast from 20,000 fathoms who terrified the country--a perfect companion for King Kong.
Item 639K.....King Kong.....$1.00
Item 639B.....The Beast.....$1.00
ORDER BOTH for $1.75 and save

ATOMIC SMOKE BOMB
Light one and watch the column of thick white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect.
No. 971 20c

Secret Spy Scope!

PEN SIZE—CLIPS ON YOUR POCKET! 6 POWER MAGNIFIER
Six power wide field magnifier is great for watching sporting events, nature study, girl watching and counter spying. Also contains a 30 power microscope. Not a toy but a real optical instrument. No. F59 $1.50



You never know when a Vampire will strike! Be ready with this realistic-looking "Vampire blood" and watch the girls swoon. Non-toxic of course--absolutely safe. Comes in a tube.
Item No. 622.....50¢

JOY BUZZER
Windup novelty you wear like a ring. Your victim gets a "SHOCKING" hand shake. Absolutely harmless.
No. 239 Only 50c

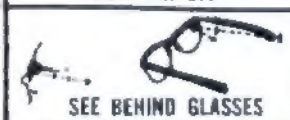
"YAKKETY YAK" SKULL
Guaranteed to produce gales of ghoulish laughter. Looks like a real skull—but it doesn't just sit there looking! You trip the secret lever and the jaw chomps up and down and sounds off with a loud "Yakkety Yak" while the skull goes jumping around the table.
Item No. 317 $1.50

WORM TRICK
These innocent looking pellets magically turn to worms when dropped in a glass of water. Horrify your friends with this harmless trick.
No. 612 25c

RAQUEL WELCH PILLOW
ONLY $1.98 What man wouldn't enjoy spending a night with Raquel Welch? Well, we can't deliver her, but we can deliver that next best thing —a 12" x 24" inflatable pillow of Raquel made of rugged vinyl to serve as your headrest. Keep her for yourself or show her to your friends. Livens up party when everyone sees and feels this great gag item.
RR15.....$1.98

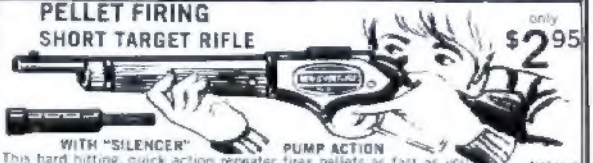
JACK POT BANK
Dime-operated "one armed Bandit" works like those in Las Vegas. Deposit dime, pull handle, and reels spin like the real thing. Dimes are removable. Should not be used for gambling.
No. 2060 $1.69

"SPUD" GUN
Here's the new fun gun everybody wants. It's a fast action toy that shoots potato pellets as far as fifty feet—with more than three hundred shots from a single potato. Absolutely harmless and never runs out of ammunition.
No. F265 1.00



SEE BEHIND GLASSES
A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing that you're watching.
No. 30 75¢

PELLET FIRING SHORT TARGET RIFLE



only $2.95
WITH "SILENCER" PUMP ACTION
This hard hitting, quick action repeater fires pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger. Its authentic western style pump action with realistic "silencer" and extra large magazine makes this short rifle perfect for target practice. FREE: a generous supply of pellets and targets. Money back if not satisfied. Send only $2.95 plus 50c for postage and handling to:
ITEM NO.646
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FREE PELLETS and TARGETS

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Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist."
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COMPLETE SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR KIT
★ BADGE ★ CARRYING CASE
★ SPECIAL I. D. CARD

ONLY $2.75
This professional type detective badge kit and case includes an extra heavy silvered nickle badge for use by private and special investigators PLUS authentic-type case and I.D. Card. Impress your friends with this official looking novelty. No.860...$2.75

FULL SIZE SKELETON
7 FEET TALL EYES GLOW IN THE DARK
This 7 foot tall "BONEY THE SKELETON" is scary enough at any time—but wait till you see him IN THE DARK in all his horrible, spine chilling grandeur, eyes glowing like fiery coals. If you like to haunt houses or frighten friends, this is for you! Or hang "Boney" in your room or to liven up a party.
No. F280 $1.00

ONLY 3.98
Weighted Wristlets

"Power Packed" Arm Builders
To Give you mighty striking power
"Power Packed" wristlets build the powerful arms you want without special equipment or exercises. Just wear these rugged lead weighted wristlets during your ordinary activities at work or play.
#900.....$3.98

WORLDS UGLIEST HANDS
Slip these knobby "paws" on and watch your friends disappear. Ugh! They're awful! If you're got the courage, maybe you can have fun(?) with them.
Item No. 607...$1.98

LEARN HYPNOTIC CONTROL
Develop your hidden hypnotic powers to control the minds and bodies of men and women. Learn to perform amazing feats and entertain at parties. Easily learned from the new book "25 Lessons in Hypnotism."
No. 7212 45c

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Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 slices to a pack.
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NO 549.....25¢

WHOOPEE CUSHION
Place on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream
No. 247 50c

SURPRISE PACKAGE
Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth.
No. 678 Only 50c

WEREWOLF HORROR MASK
This rubber mask is so grotesque that it is sure to shake up the whole neighborhood. Be the "Werewolf" that prowls again!
No. 26W....$1.98

MUSCLES OF STEEL
Results in just 30 days
Pocket gym slaps inches of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends—the admiration of the girls. Keep fit and healthy. Fear no one! Made of heavy rubber.
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MONEYMAKER
Insert a blank piece of paper, turn the knob and . . . OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a $5 then the $5 changes to $10.
A135 1.25

OVER 1000 FREE GIFTS YOURS FOR THE ASKING
This miracle book gives the addresses of associations, federal agencies and manufacturers that are anxious to send you ABSOLUTELY FREE samples, manuals, and books. A fabulous treasure trove completely up to date which will bring you gifts worth many times its low cost.
Item - 88 50c

GROW AMAZING LIVE **Sea-monkeys** INSTANT PETS $1.00

What fun and laughs as you watch your zoo full of Sea Monkeys obey your commands, dance to music, and loop-the-loop. A "Variety Show" for the whole family for only $1. FREE Instruction Book, water purifier, and a FULL YEAR supply of growth food.
NO. FLS.....$1.00

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35 WILBUR ST., LYNBROOK, N.Y. 11563
Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.
We cannot accept orders totaling less than $1.00

NAME & NUMBER OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

Please add 25c to total order for postage and handling.
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED
NAME
ADDRESS ZIP
NY State residents add state and local sales tax.

TALES OF VOODOO

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CARL BURGOS, Editor IRVING FASS, Art Director
EZRA JACKSON, Art Editor

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THE PROMISE OF RAIN IS THE PROMISE OF NEW LIFE GROWING FROM THE SOIL OF STREETS MADE CLEAN AND FRESH! BUT WHAT APPALLING HORROR WOULD RESULT IF THE RAIN WERE TO BECOME A DISASTER...

THE MONSTER CLOUD

DROUGHT... THE DREADED WORD, STRIKES A LARGE AMERICAN CITY. IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER...
A COUPLE OF SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO SHAKE UP SOME RAIN OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS. GET THE STORY, PETERS AND MAKE IT GOOD!
...AND JUICY, EH, CHIEF!
SO THEY SENT YOU BOYS ON THIS DISMAL JOB, TOO.
YEAH, SAY, THAT'S A PRETTY ODD LOOKING TOWER THEY'VE BUILT!
YOU GENTLEMEN WILL HAVE TO BE PATIENT...OUR EXPERIMENTS ARE DIFFICULT AND MAY HAVE TO TAKE A WHILE!
WE UNDERSTAND, DOCTOR!

AS THE DAYS PASS, THE SCIENISTS WORK FEVERISHLY AT THEIR TASK...
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WE HAVEN'T TRIED..
I'M AFRAID THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO, DR. PHORBES!

FINALLY...
DR. PHORBES, PLEASE COME HERE! I'VE FOUND A LOOSE WIRE IN THE PANEL!
YOU CAN TELL YOUR PAPERS THAT WE'VE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL! I'M SORRY!

WHY DON'T THEY GIVE UP?
OKAY, THAT DOES IT...NOW, PULL THE SWITCH!

ONE QUICK MOVEMENT OF THE SWITCH... THEN, IN THE CLOUDLESS SKY, A CLOUD BEGINS TO FORM....
DR. BAXTER! LOOK! A CLOUD!
OUT OF NOWHERE! SO SUDDENLY! BUT HOW!

IT'S BEGINNING TO RAIN! BUT ONLY IN THAT SMALL AREA UNDER THE CLOUD!
STRANGE!.. IT SEEMS LIKE A HUMAN FACE!

A BRIEF SHOWER AND THEN HORROR! FOR IN ITS WAKE IT LEAVES SUDDEN DEATH!
GOOD HEAVENS! THAT RAIN DESTROYED EVERYTHING IN SIGHT!

WHAT HAPPENED?
WE HAVE CREATED SOME DREADFUL WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION IN ONE BIG CLOUD!

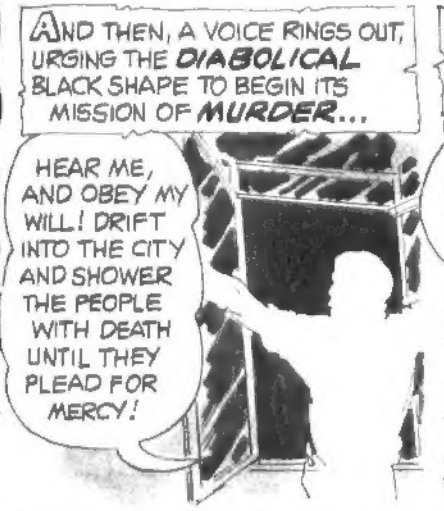
SEE HOW IT MOVES TOWARD US AS IF WAITING TO DO OUR WILL!

THE REPORTERS HUDDLE TOGETHER UNNOTICED, A SINISTER PLAN FORMING IN THEIR MINDS...
IT'S SENSATIONAL NEWS! BUT IT CAN BE MORE THAN THAT TO US!
I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, PARTNERS!

THEY SAY THE CLOUD WILL OBEY A HUMAN WILL! WHAT POWER WE COULD HAVE OVER THE COUNTRY...
THEY WOULD HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN BEING CONTROLLED BY US...OR DYING IN IN A SHOWER OF DEATH!

THEN WE'RE AGREED! THE FIRST STEP IS EASY!
GENTLEMEN, WHAT IS WRONG?
WHY ARE YOU...NO! NO!

THE REPORTERS TURN ON THE MEN OF SCIENCE, DETERMINED TO POSSESS THEIR FIENDISH CREATION!
THIS IS THE END FOR SCIENCE, FROM HERE ON WE TAKE OVER!


AND THEN, A VOICE RINGS OUT, URGING THE DIABOLICAL BLACK SHAPE TO BEGIN ITS MISSION OF MURDER...
HEAR ME, AND OBEY MY WILL! DRIFT INTO THE CITY AND SHOWER THE PEOPLE WITH DEATH UNTIL THEY PLEAD FOR MERCY!

LIKE THE LOWEST OF SLAVES, THE BLACK CLOUD MOVES TOWARD THE CITY...
LOOK! A DARK CLOUD IS FORMING IN THE SKY!
MAYBE'LL WE'LL HAVE SOME RAIN AT LAST!

IT IS BEGINNING TO RAIN! THE DROUGHT IS OVER!
A SINGLE CLOUD... WHAT HELP CAN IT BRING US?

BUT SUDDENLY, JOY TURNS TO FEAR... AND THEN TO WILD PANIC AS THE SUMMER SHOWER SPREADS HAVOC IN ITS WAKE.
THE RAIN! THE RAIN! AGH-H-H!
HELP HELP!
AEEE!

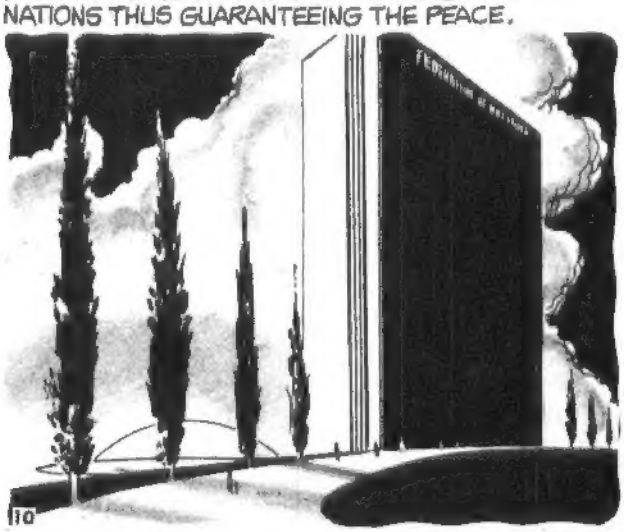
WON'T SOMEONE SAVE US FROM THIS HORROR?

AND BACK IN THE TOWER, THE NEWSMEN WATCH THE CLOUD'S DEVASTATION, WITH SMILES OF EVIL TRIUMPH!
IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THEY TURN TO US FOR HELP! AND THEN WE CAN OFFER THEM THEIR LIVES AT THE PRICE OF THEIR FREEDOM!
BUT EVIL SOON BREEDS DOUBT AND FEAR...
THE FOOLS! THEY THINK THEY'LL GET RID OF ME ONCE THE CITY IS WON! BUT I CAN SEE THEIR PLAN!
PETERS WOULD LIKE TO SEE US DEAD...SO THAT HE COULD TAKE OVER BY HIMSELF! IT WOULD BE SAFER WITH HIM OUT OF THE WAY...
WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME?
I WAS JUST THINKING THAT MAYBE YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE THIS TOWER ALIVE!
LIKE CAGED ANIMALS ANGERED BY MUTUAL DISTRUST, THE NEWSMEN SPRING AT EACH OTHER...
WE'LL SEE WHO LEAVES HERE ALIVE!
KILL HIM! HE'S NO USE TO US NOW!
SOK!
A MOMENT OF FRENZIED BATTLE...AND A BODY GOES HURTLING THROUGH THE WINDOW TO A VIOLENT DEATH!
MEANWHILE, THE BLACK CLOUD, UNCONTROLLED BY HUMAN WILL, ITS GHASTLY MISSION COMPLETED, DRIFTS BACK TO THE PLACE OF ITS ORIGIN LIKE A DAMNED SOUL!
I'LL KILL YOU... YOU...
WAIT! WHY IS IT SO DARK IN HERE? WHERE IS THE CLOUD?

THE CLOUD! NO! NO! IT CAN'T BE! IT CAN'T...
AND THEN ONE FINAL SHOWER BEGINS...
...IN A FEW MOMENTS ONLY A SHATTERED RELIC REMAINS! THE BODIES OF THE EVIL MEN!
...AND IN THE SKY, THE DEMON CLOUD, ITS STRENGTH GONE, ITS MASTERS DEAD, BEGINS TO FADE AND DIE...
BACK IN THE CITY, DARK CLOUDS BRING REFRESHING RAIN TO WASH AWAY THE EVIL AND BRING NEW LIFE TO A FRIGHTENED PEOPLE!
IT'S REALLY RAINING AT LAST! THE WATER FAMINE IS OVER!
WE'VE BEEN SAVED! WHATEVER IT WAS.... MAY IT NEVER RETURN!
EAS
MARCHIONNI 72
END

THE UNKNOWN

IN THE YEAR 3010 MAN MADE PEACE WITH HIMSELF. HE OUTLAWED WAR AND EACH NATION DEPOSITED A PORTION OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY IN THE UNITED NATIONS THUS GUARANTEEING THE PEACE.



AT LAST MAN COULD DIRECT HIS PURPOSE TO THE RIGHT CHANNELS....HE WAS NOW THE ***CREATOR OF HIS OWN DESTINY!***

THE POWERS OF THE JET ENGINE WERE COMBINED WITH ATOMIC ENERGY AND WERE DIVERTED AWAY FROM THE WAR PLANES TO COMMERCIAL USE. MANKIND HAD GEARED FOR PEACE.... WAR MACHINES WERE A THING OF THE PAST!
MAN DEVOTED HIS LIFETIME TO THE CREATION OF BEAUTY AND CONQUERING MAN'S OTHER DESTRUCTIVE FORCE "DISEASE" IT BECAME A MAJOR EFFORT TO CREATE A NEW WORLD!
WHILE MEDICAL FORUMS ANNOUNCED THE FINAL COMPLETION OF MAN'S ATTACK ON "DISEASE."
FREE OF DISEASE AT THE SAME TIME HE SET NEW HORIZONS OF HIS NEVER ENDING SEARCH IN SPACE HOPING TO FIND OTHER CIVILIZATIONS ON PLANETS UNKNOWN...
OUR WORLD IS NOW DISEASE FREE! WE'VE CONQUERED THEM ALL. CANCER, HEART DISEASE AND SUCCESSFUL TRANSPLANTS OF ALL ORGANS.. EVEN THE COMMON COLD!
THE "UTOPIA" COULD NOW MOVE INTO ITS NEXT PHASE ONLY SOMETHING HAPPENED IN THIS PARADISE...
IN ONE MINUTE THE SCENE CHANGES FROM A PARADISE INTO A NIGHTMARE OF HELL.

THE OCEANS EXPLODED IN A CASCADE OF WET FURY THAT FELL ON THE COASTAL CITIES...
...THE EARTH QUIVERED, QUAKED AND THEN BUCKLED BEFORE SOME UNKNOWN POWER...
...AND BELOW THE SURFACE MIGHTY FORCES WERE ALSO AT WORK READY TO ADD TO THE REIGN OF DESTRUCTION...
...THEN MIGHTY GALES FANNED THE FIRES OF A WRECKED WORLD IN ONE LAST EXPRESSION THE FURIES UNLEASHED BY THE UNKNOWN!
AND WHEN IT WAS OVER, A MIGHTY CIVILIZATION WAS GONE AND THE EARTH HUNG EMPTY, DEAD! CHARRED, DESOLATE....AND

HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN TO A WORLD WHEREIN MAN WAS THE CREATOR OF HIS OWN DESTINY, THE MAKER OF HIS FATE?
LET US GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING... BUT ON A DIFFERENT PLANE... THE HEAVENS...
MY SON. AND HOW HAVE YOU BEEN TODAY?
OKAY, I GUESS...BUT WHERE'S THE TOY YOU PROMISED ME?
IF I PROMISED YOU, YOU SHALL HAVE IT! HOW ABOUT A NEW BALL TO PLAY WITH, MY SON, THE OLD ONE SEEMS WORN OUT!
HERE, THIS ONE LOOKS PRETTY GOOD!
LET ME SEE IT! LET ME SEE!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THE NEW BALL, MY SON?
GEE, IT'S SWELL! BUT NEXT TIME GET ME THE ONE WITH THE RINGS AROUND IT!
SO MAN CONQUERS SPACE, RIDS THE WORLD OF WAR, DISEASE, POVERTY, AND CREATES A PARADISE... A PARADISE THAT DOES NOT RECKON WITH THE FURY OF NATURE AND THINGS UNKNOWN.
THE END

LIKE THE DEADLIEST OF COBRAS IT STRIKES IN THE BLACK OF MIDNIGHT SEARING THE BODY WITH ITS TERRIBLE **FORCE!**

FORCE OF HORROR

AAAGHH!

NO! NO! YOU MUST **OBEY** ME! I AM YOUR MASTER! I **CREATED** YOU!!

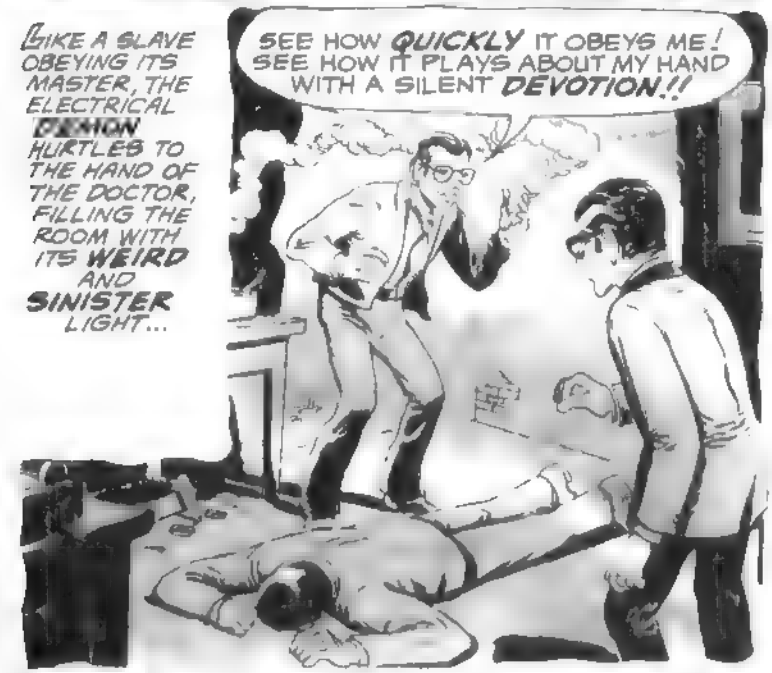
IN THAT CASE I HAVE CONCENTRATED THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY EVER PLACED IN A SINGLE AREA!!

SUDDENLY A NOISE AS OF THE CRACK OF DOOM THUNDERS THROUGH THE ROOM--AND THE BOLT OF BURNING LIGHT FLEES FROM ITS PRISON!...
YAAAH-H-H!!! THE BOLT... IT...IT...

NO! NO! ARRGGH-H-H!!!

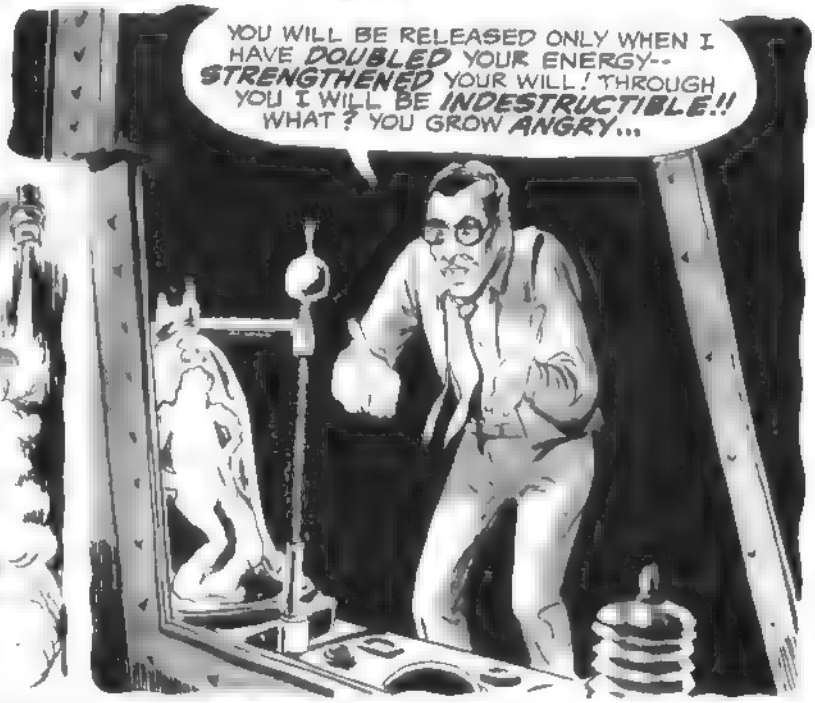
THE VOLTAGE MUST HAVE REACHED THE POINT WHERE THE BOLT COULD TAKE ON A LIFE OF ITS OWN!!! IT EXIST BY ITSELF!! YET I CREATED IT... AND I CAN CONTROL IT!!

...BUT YOU HAVE CREATED A TERRIBLE OBJECT OF DESTRUCTION!! IN THE CASE IT WAS HARMLESS!! BUT NOW... NOW...


LIKE A SLAVE OBEYING ITS MASTER, THE ELECTRICAL DEMON HURTLES TO THE HAND OF THE DOCTOR, FILLING THE ROOM WITH ITS WEIRD AND SINISTER LIGHT...
SEE HOW QUICKLY IT OBEYS ME! SEE HOW IT PLAYS ABOUT MY HAND WITH A SILENT DEVOTION!!

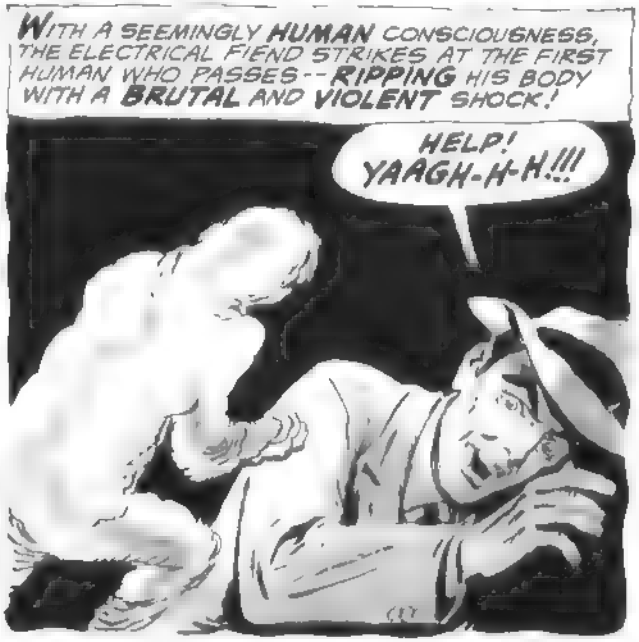
YOU ARE A FOOL! THINK OF THE POWER I HAVE WITH THIS-- THIS WEAPON THAT FOLLOWS MY COMMANDS! IT IS OBVIOUS THAT YOU MUST--

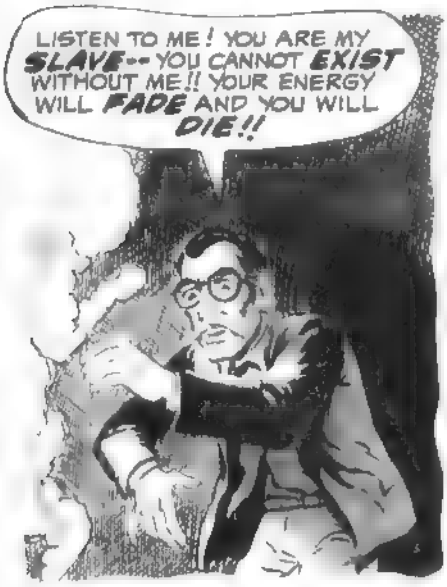
...DIE!!!
YAIEEE-E-E!!!


YOU WILL BE RELEASED ONLY WHEN I HAVE DOUBLED YOUR ENERGY-- STRENGTHENED YOUR WILL! THROUGH YOU I WILL BE INDESTRUCTIBLE!! WHAT? YOU GROW ANGRY...

AS THE DAYS PASS THE TWISTED MIND OF THE DOCTOR REVELS AT THE BRIGHT BUT EVIL MONSTER THAT SPUTTERS IN ITS CAGE, EAGER TO DESTROY AT THE BIDDING OF ITS MASTER!...
AH, MY PRETTY! YOU GROW RESTLESS!

AS IF DRIVEN TO MADNESS BY THE WORDS OF ITS CREATOR, THE BOLT AGAIN LEAPS FROM ITS PRISON WITH SAVAGE FURY!...
NO! COME BACK! YOU CANNOT SURVIVE WITHOUT ME!! I GAVE YOU LIFE AND I CAN TAKE IT BACK!!


WITH A SEEMINGLY HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS, THE ELECTRICAL FIEND STRIKES AT THE FIRST HUMAN WHO PASSES-- RIPPING HIS BODY WITH A BRUTAL AND VIOLENT SHOCK!
HELP! YAAGH-H-H!!!



WITH ONE FINAL SCORNFUL BURST OF RAGING MALICE, THE BOLT SEARS THE BODY OF ITS CREATOR-- AS IF DETERMINED TO SHOW THE FREEDOM OF ITS WILL!...

BUT THE SUPER-HUMAN ENERGY THAT GAVE IT LIFE IS EXHAUSTED AND WHILE THE CROWD WATCHES IN SILENT HORROR, THE DOOMED BOLT FADES... AND SPUTTERS... AND DIES...

THE END

IN THE STEAMING, CRAWLING DARKNESS OF THE FLORIDA SWAMP COUNTRY, THE GHASTLY SPECTERS OF HORROR PLAN A MURDER...SHOWING THAT THERE ARE...

SPIRITS OF THE WITCH

The DREADFUL THOUGHT OF MURDER WAS PUT INTO ACTION! AN INVITATION WAS SENT AND ACCEPTED AND FROM THE NORTH CAME AUNT LENORE!
DEAR AUNT LENORE... YOU DON'T KNOW HOW JAMES AND I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO-- SEEING YOU HERE!

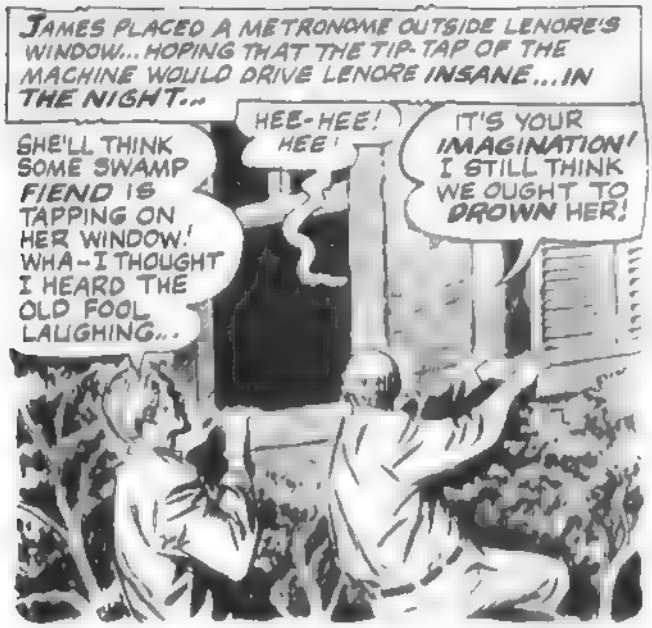
HERE'S YOUR ROOM, AUNTIE... WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY YOUR STAY WITH US!
IT'S.. LOVELY! THANK YOU, NEPHEWS... NOW PLEASE EXCUSE ME! I MUST PREPARE SOME THINGS!

THOSE FOOLS! LITTLE DO THEY KNOW WHAT THEIR AUNT LENORE IS... HOW I HAVE MASTERED THE BLACK ARTS! HEE! HEE! I KNOW WHAT THEY WANT TO DO!

SPIRITS OF THE SHADOW... HEAR ME! I, YOUR SISTER OF DARKNESS CALLS YOU! PHANTOMS OF EVIL ARISE TO DO BATTLE AGAINST MY NEPHEW!

I SEE YOU, MESSENGER OF DEATH! YOU ANSWERED MY CALL! WE WILL KILL.. KILL THOSE WHO WOULD KILL ME!

I'M ALL FOR DROWNING HER.. RIGHT HERE... IN THE POOL!
NO, YOU FOOL! WE CAN FORGE A SUICIDE NOTE FOR HER... AND HANG HER! WAIT--I HAVE A BETTER IDEA---


JAMES PLACED A METRONOME OUTSIDE LENORE'S WINDOW... HOPING THAT THE TIP-TAP OF THE MACHINE WOULD DRIVE LENORE INSANE... IN THE NIGHT...
SHE'LL THINK SOME SWAMP FIEND IS TAPPING ON HER WINDOW! WHA-I THOUGHT I HEARD THE OLD FOOL LAUGHING...
HEE-HEE! HEE!
IT'S YOUR IMAGINATION! I STILL THINK WE OUGHT TO DROWN HER!

ALONE IN THEIR ROOM, IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, JAMES, AND LESLIE LISTENED FOR THE WEIRD TAPPING SOUND...
I HEAR IT... IT SOUNDS SO STRANGE..
YES... IT SEEMS TOO NEAR... TOO LOUD..
TAP

LESLIE... IT'S LOUDER... IT SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM THIS ROOM!
TAP TAP TAP

NO! NO! EEEYAHH! L-LOOK, J-JAMES... LOOK!

THE WINDOW--LOOK-- LOOK AT THE WINDOW! THE-THE TAPPING WAS HERE... IT'S COMING IN--IN HERE!!
TAP

EEEEEYAAARRRGHH!!
TAP

BUT THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE NEXT MORNING TOLD THE MURDER-BENT BROTHERS THAT THE TAPPINGS HAD ALL BEEN A BAD DREAM...
OH-H, THAT SPECTRAL HAND... SEEMED SO REAL!
WE SHOULD HAVE HUNG HER AND HAD IT OVER WITH QUIET... HERE SHE COMES!

GOOD MORNING, AUNTIE! I HOPE YOU-- SLEPT WELL!
GRACIOUS, YES! HEE! HEE! IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE TO WALK AROUND THE GROUNDS BEFORE BREAKFAST!

SHE.. SHE DIDN'T HEAR A SOUND? WE BETTER DROWN HER! THE STRAIN IS TOO MUCH FOR ME!
WAIT! I HAVE ONE MORE IDEA FOR DRIVING HER MAD... IF THAT FAILS, WE CAN HANG HER OR DROWN HER...

WE'LL PAINT THIS ON HER CEILING IN PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT! SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE IT IN THE DAYTIME, BUT AT NIGHT...IT WILL GLOW...!

LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS YOU SEE HER COMING! BRRR! THIS HORRIBLE FACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS... IT'S ALMOST ALIVE... WATCHING!
I GET THE SAME FEELING! HURRY... LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!

THAT HORRIBLE FACE SHOULD SCARE HER TO DEATH...
...AND THERE'S NO WAY FOR HER TO FIND OUT WE WERE EVER HERE!

AND IN THE STILL OF THE NIGHT...
COME, MY FRIENDS OF THE NIGHT... VENGEANCE UPON MY NEPHEWS...

HEH-HEH! I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THE OLD WOMAN SCREAM!
J-JAMES.. (GASP)...LOO--LOOK UP AT OUR...OUR CEILING... LOOK...

ON--ON OUR CEILING? WHA--WHAT IS IT--
EEEEEE! JAMES! IT--IT'S MOVING!

NO! NO! YAARRR!

YAAAARRGHGH!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

T-THAT WAS NO NIGHTMARE LAST NIGHT! OUR HAIR... TURNED WHITE! I CAN'T STAND IT ANY MORE... LET'S DROWN HER NOW!
JAMES! LESLIE! OH, THERE YOU ARE...

WHAT HAPPENED... YOU BOTH LOOK TEN YEARS OLDER! WHAT HAPPENED?
DO YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT YOU HEARD NOTHING LAST NIGHT?
YOU DIDN'T... SEE ANYTHING?

ARE YOU TRYING TO FRIGHTEN ME? YOU SOUND ALMOST AS IF YOU'D SEEN GHOSTS... OR VISIONS.. ON YOUR CEILING!

ON THE CEILING! YOU-YOU DID SEE THEM! YOU'RE TRYING TO DRIVE US CRAZY... JUST AS WE PLANNED TO DO TO YOU! I'LL KILL YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? PUT ME DOWN!
YOU DID HEAR NOISES, LENORE... YOU FIEND! FIEND! FIEND!

DIE! DIE! NOW WE'LL HAVE YOUR MONEY AND OUR SANITY!
DROWN, YOU WITCH! DROWN AND STRANGLE...
AIIYEE!
SPLASH!

LOOK AT THE BLOOD! SHE MUST'VE STRUCK HER HEAD!
LEAVE HER THERE... I CAN'T BEAR TO TOUCH HER...

MAD WITH TERROR AS THEY WATCHED THE MONSTROUS THING IN FRONT OF THEM, LESLIE AND JAMES DID NOT SEE THE GHOSTLY HANDS THAT SILENTLY OPENED THE WINDOW BEHIND THEM...

NOW YOU WILL EACH DIE AS YOU HAD PLANNED FOR ME TO DIE! HAHAHRGGGG!
STAY AWAY-Y! AARGHH!

CRAZED WITH ALARM, THE BROTHERS FELL! JAMES WHO WANTED TO HANG LENORE...
I'M FALLING! THE VINES... THEY--ULP--ARGH-H!

...AND LESLIE, WHO WANTED TO DROWN HER...
EEEYAA-A.. MY HEAD...

THE NEXT MORNING...
WHAT A TERRIBLE SHOCK FOR A POOR OLD DEAR LIKE YOU... MAYBE YOU'D BETTER GO BACK HOME TODAY! WE'LL FIND THE MURDERER!
OH--THE POOR BOYS! YES... I CAN'T STAND IT HERE... SOB... SOB!

WHAT A SWEET, OLD LADY!
MAY I GET ANYTHING FOR YOU, MA'AM? ARE YOU ON FOR A LONG VOYAGE?
NO THANK YOU, STEWARD... I'M JUST TAKING A SHORT TRIP AWAY FROM MY HOME IN THE FLORIDA SWAMPS... FOR MY HEALTH..

BUT, BACK AT THE GHASTLY DEATH-SCENE...
THIS IS GOING TO BE A TOUGH CASE TO SOLVE... THIS ONE IN THE POOL MUST'VE HIT HIS HEAD FIRST! SEE ALL THE BLOOD?
YEAH... SAY... LOOK HERE! WET FOOTPRINTS FROM THE POOL! GREAT SCOTT! THEY LOOK LIKE THE FOOTPRINTS ...OF...A... LITTLE OLD LADY...!!!
THE END

THE MONSTER

ADAM FALCON sailed at dawn, and Margaret Deveral, the girl who was to marry him, stood on the wharfs in the cold mist to wave a good-bye. At the dusk Margaret knelt, stony-eyed, above the still white form that the crawling tide had left crumpled on the beach.

The people of Faring town gathered about, whispering. "The fog hung heavy; mayhap she went ashore on Ghost Reef. Strange that his corpse alone should drift back to Faring harbor—and so swiftly."

The body lay above the tide mark, as if flung by a vagrant wave; slim, but strong and virile in life, now darkly handsome even in death. The eyes were closed, strange to say, so it appeared that he but slept. The seaman's clothes he wore had fragments of seaweed clinging to them.

"Strange," muttered old John Harper, owner of the Sea Lion Inn, and the oldest ex-seaman of Faring town. "He sank deep, for these weeds grow only at the bottom of the ocean, aye, in the coral-grown caves of the sea."

Margaret spoke no word, she but knelt, her hands pressed to her cheeks, eyes wide and staring.

"Take him in your arms, lass, and kiss him," gently urged the people of Faring, "for 'tis what he would have wished, alive."

The girl obeyed mechanically, shuddering at the coldness of the body. Then as her lips touched his, she screamed and recoiled.

"This is not Adam!" she shrieked, staring wildly about her.

The people nodded sadly to each other.

"Her brain is turned," they whispered, and then they lifted the corpse and bore it to the house wherein Adam Falcon had lived—where he had hoped to bring his bride when he returned from his voyage.

And the people brought Margaret along with them, caressing her and soothing her with gentle words. But the girl walked like one in a trance, her eyes still staring in that strange manner.

They laid the body of Adam Falcon on his bed, with death candles at the head and feet, and the salt water from his garments trickled off the bed and splashed on the floor. For it is a superstition in Faring town, as on many dim coasts, that monstrously bad luck will follow if a drowned man's clothes are removed.

And Margaret sat there in the death room and spoke to none, staring fixedly at Adam's dark calm face. And, as she sat, John Gower, a rejected suitor of hers, and a moody, dangerous man, came and, looking over her shoulder said: "Sea death brings a curious change, if that is the Adam Falcon I knew."

Black looks were passed his way, whereat he seemed surprised; and men rose and quietly escorted him to the door.

"You hated Adam Falcon, John Gower," said Tom Leary, "and you hate Margaret because the child preferred a better man than you. Now, by Satan, you'll not be torturing the girl with your calloused talk. Get out and stay!"

Gower scowled darkly at this, but Tom Leary stood up boldly to him, and the men of Faring town back of him, so John turned his back squarely upon them and strode away. Yet to me it had seemed that what he had said had not been meant as a taunt or an insult, but simply the result of a sudden, startling thought.

And as he walked away I heard him mutter to himself: ". . . Alike, and yet strangely unlike him . . ." Night had fallen on Faring town and the windows of the houses blinked through the darkness; through the windows of Adam Falcon's house glimmered the death candles where Margaret and others kept silent watch until dawn. And beyond the friendly warmth of the town's lights, the dusky green titan brooded along the strand, silent now as if in sleep, but ever ready to leap with hungry talons. I wandered down to the beach and reclining on the white sand, gazed out over the slowly heaving expanse which coiled and billowed in drowsy undulations like a sleeping serpent.

The sea—the great, gray, cold-eyed woman of the ages. Her tides spoke to me as they have spoken to me since birth—in the swish of the flat waves along the sand, in the wail of the ocean-bird, in her throbbing silence. *I am very old and very wise* (brooded the sea), *I have no part of man; I slay men and even their bodies I fling back upon the cowering land. There is life in my bosom, but it is not human life* (whispered the sea), *my children hate the sons of men.*

A SHRIEK shattered the stillness and brought me to my feet, gazing wildly about me. Above the stars

gleamed coldly, and their scintillant ghosts sparkled on the ocean's cold surface. The town lay dark and still, save for the death lights in Adam Falcon's house—and the echoes still shuddering through the pulsating silence

I was among the first to arrive at the door of the death room and there halted aghast with the rest. Margaret Deveral lay dead upon the floor, her slender form crushed like a slim ship among shoals, and crouching over her, cradling her in his arms, was John Gower, the gleam of insanity in his wide eyes. And the death candles still flickered and leaped, but no corpse lay on Adam Falcon's bed.

"God's mercy!" gasped Tom Leary. "John Gower, ye fiend from hell, what devil's work is this?"

Gower looked up.

"I told you," he shrieked, "She knew—and I knew—'twas not Adam Falcon, that cold monster flung up by the mocking waves! 'Tis some demon inhabiting his corpse! Hark—I sought my bed and tried to sleep, but each time there came the thought of this soft girl sitting beside that cold inhuman thing you thought her lover, and at last I rose and came to the window. Margaret sat, drowsing, and the others, fools that they were, slept in other parts of the house. And as I watched . . . "

He shook as a wave of shuddering passed over him.

"As I watched, Adam's eyes opened, and the corpse rose swift stealthy from the bed where it lay. I stood without the window, frozen, helpless, and the ghastly thing stole upon the unknowing girl, with frightful eyes burning with hellish light and snaky arms outstretched. Then, she woke and screamed and then—oh Mother of God!—the dead man lapped her in his terrible arms, and she died without a sound."

Gower's voice died out into incoherent gibberings, and he rocked the dead girl gently to and fro like a mother with a child.

Tom Leary shook him. "Where is the corpse?"

"He fled into the night," said John Gower tonelessly.

Men looked at each other, bewildered.

"He lies," muttered they, deep in their beards. "He has slain Margaret himself and hidden the corpse somewhere to bear out his ghastly tale."

A sullen snarl shook the throng, and as one man they turned and looked where, on Hangman's Hill overlooking the bay, Lie-lip Canool's bleached skeleton glimmered against the stars.

They took the dead girl from Gower's arms, though he clung to her, and laid her gently on the bed between the candles meant for Adam Falcon. Still she lay, and white, and men and women whispered that she seemed more like one drowned than one crushed to death.

WE BORE John Gower through the village streets, he not resisting; but seeming to walk in a daze, muttering to himself. But in the square, Tom Leary halted.

"This is a strange tale Gower told us," said he, "and doubtless a lie. Still, I am not a man to be hanging another without certainty. Therefore, let us place him in the stocks for safekeeping, while we search for Adam's corpse. Time enough for hanging afterwards."

So this was done and as we turned away, I looked back upon John Gower, who sat, head bowed upon his breast, like a man who is weary unto death.

So, under the dim wharfs and in the attics of houses and among stranded hulls we searched for Adam Falcon's corpse. Back up into the hills behind the town our hunt lead us, where we broke up into groups and couples and scattered out over the barren downs.

My companion was Michael Hansen, and we had gotten so far apart that the darkness cloaked him from me, when he gave a sudden

shout. I started toward him, and then the shout broke into a shriek and the shriek died off into grisly silence. Michael Hansen lay dead on the earth, and a dim form slunk away in the gloom as I stood above the corpse, my flesh crawling.

Tom Leary and the rest came on the run and gathered about, swearing that John Gower had done this deed, also.

"He has escaped, somehow, from the stocks," said they, and we legged it for the village at top speed.

Aye, John Gower had escaped from the stocks and from his townsmen's hate and from all the sorrows of life. He sat as we had left him, head bowed upon his breast; but One had come to him in the darkness, and, though all his bones were broken, he seemed like a drowned man.

Then stark horror fell like a thick fog on Faring town. We clustered about the stocks, struck silent, till shrieks from a house on the outskirts of the village told us that the horror had struck again, and, rushing there, we found red destruction and death. And a maniac woman who whimpered before she died that Adam Falcon's corpse had broken through the window, flaming-eyed and horrible, to rend and slay. A green slime fouled the room and fragments of seaweed clung to the window sill.

Then fear, unreasoning and shameless, took possession of the men of Faring town, and they fled to their separate houses, where they locked and bolted doors and windows and crouched behind them, weapons trembling in their hands and black terror in their souls. For what weapon can slay the dead?

And through the deathly night, horror stalked through Faring town and hunted the sons of men. Men shuddered and dared not even look forth when the crash of a door or window told of the entrance of the fiend into dome wretch's cottage, when shrieks and gibberings told of its grisly deeds therein.

YET THERE WAS one man who did not shut himself behind doors to be there slaughtered like a sheep. I was never a brave man, nor was it courage that sent me out into the ghastly night. No, it was the driving power of a Thought, a Thought which had birth in my brain as I looked on the dead face of Michael Hansen. A vague and illusive thing it was, a hovering and an almost-being—but not quite. Somewhere at the back of my skull it lurked, and I could not rest until I had proved or disproved that which I could not even formulate into a concrete theory.

So, with my brain in strange and chaotic condition, I stole through the shadows, warily. Mayhap the sea, strange and fickle even to her chosen, had whispered something to my inner mind, had betrayed her own. I know not.

But all through the dark hours I prowled along the beach, and, when in the first gray light of the early dawn, a fiendish shape came striding down to the shore, I was waiting there.

To all seeming it was Adam Falcon's corpse, animated by some horrid life, which fronted me there in the gray gloom. The eyes were open now, and they glimmered with a cold light, like the reflections of some deep sea hell. And I knew that it was not Adam Falcon who faced me.

"Sea fiend," I said in an unsteady voice, "I know not how you came by Adam Falcon's apparel. I know not whether his ship went upon the rocks, or whether he fell overboard, or whether you climbed up the strake and over the rail and dragged him from his own deck. Nor do I know by what foul ocean magic you twisted your devil's features into a likeness of his.

"But this I know. Adam Falcon sleeps in peace beneath the blue tides. You are not he. That I suspected—now I know. This horror has come upon Earth of yore—so long ago that all men have forgotten the tales; all except such as I, whom

men name fool. I know, and knowing, I fear you not, and here I slay you, for though you are not human, you may be slain by a man who does not fear you—even though that man be only a youth and considered strange and foolish. You have left your demon's mark upon the land; God alone knows how many souls you have reft, how many brains you have shattered this night. The ancients said your kind could do harm only in the form of men, on land. Aye, you tricked the sons of men—were borne into their midst by kind and gentle hands—by men who knew not they carried a monster from the abysses.

"Now, you have worked your will, and the sun will soon rise, Before that time you must be far below the green waters, basking in the accursed caverns that human eye has never looked upon save in death. There lies the sea and safety; I alone bar the way."

He came upon me like a towering wave, and his arms were like green serpents about me. I knew they were crushing me; yet I felt as if I were drowning instead, and even then understood the expression that had puzzled me on Michael Hansen's face—that of a drowned man.

I was looking into the inhuman eyes of the monster, and it was as if I gazed into untold depths of oceans—depths into which I should presently tumble and drown. And I felt scales.

Neck, arm, and shoulder he gripped me, bending me back to break my spine, and I drove my knife into his body again—and again—and again. He roared once, the only sound I ever heard him make, and it was like the roar of the tides among the shoals. Like the pressure of a hundred fathoms of green water was the grasp upon my body and limbs, and then, as I thrust again, he gave way and crumpled to the beach.

He lay there writhing and then was still, and already he had begun to change. Merman, the ancients named his kind, knowing they were endowed with strange attributes, one of which was the ability to take the full form of a man if lifted from the ocean by the hands of men. I bent and tore the human clothing from thing. And the first gleams of the sun fell upon a slimy and moldering mass of seaweed, from which stared two hideous dead eyes—a formless bulk that lay at the water's edge, where the first high wave would bear it back to that from which it came: the cold jade ocean deeps. •

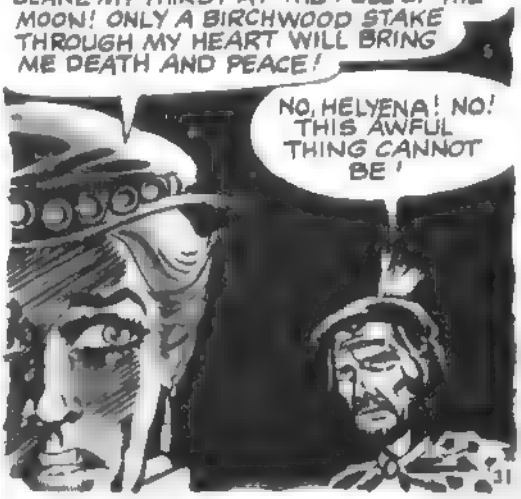
GATHER AROUND, FOLKS! HERE'S THE **NAMELESS ONE** AGAIN WITH A CHARMING LITTLE STORY OF DREAD AND TERROR WELL CALCULATED TO MAKE YOUR BLOOD RUN COLD! LET'S GO BACK INTO THE YEARS! IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY, A HUNGARIAN NOBLE, A WIDOWER WITH ONE SON DWELT IN HIS ANCESTRAL CASTLE IN THE TRANSYLVANIAN MOUNTAINS! **COUNT OTTO SANDOR** LOST HIS HEART TO THE LOVELY **HELYENA** WHO WAS UNHAPPILY MARRIED TO A NEIGHBORING BARON! THEIR FRUITLESS LOVE WAS TO LEAD THEM TO YEARS TOGETHER IN...

HOUSE OF VAMPIRES

IT CAN'T BE! YOU'VE BEEN DEAD FOR CENTURIES!

Reynoso

ONE DAY, HELYENA MET HER NOBLE ADMIRER WITH DISQUIETING NEWS.



BUT... THE SARDONIC HAND OF FATE INTERVENED WITH A TWIST THAT BROUGHT FRUSTRATION TO BOTH--- THE MALIGN DEMONS THAT ARRANGED THE DESTINY OF THESE TWO DECREED THAT THEY WOULD NEVER AWAKE AT THE SAME TIME...

SLOWLY, THE STRANGE FIGURE MAKES ITS WAY UP THE MOULDY STAIRS...

ANOTHER JOHANN AWAITS HIM IN THE ANCIENT KITCHEN--TWELVE GENERATIONS REMOVED FROM THE ORIGINAL SERVITOR...
I WAS EXPECTING YOU, SIR! IT IS THE NIGHT FOR YOUR COMING!
YOU ARE A FAITHFUL FELLOW, JOHANN, AS WERE YOUR FATHERS BEFORE YOU!

SUDDENLY...
SOMEONE'S IN THE COURTYARD!
SEE WHO IT IS... I SHALL KEEP OUT OF SIGHT!

THE SERVANT ENCOUNTERS A YOUNG COUPLE...
WE ARE AMERICANS, ON OUR HONEYMOON! OUR CAR BROKE DOWN! CAN YOU GIVE US SHELTER FOR THE NIGHT?
WE HAVE FEW COMFORTS IN OLD CASTLE SANDOR, SIR, BUT YOU ARE WELCOME TO ENTER!

CASTLE SANDOR! THIS MUST BE THE HOME OF MY ANCESTORS! MY GREAT-GREAT GRANDFATHER EMIGRATED TO AMERICA FROM AROUND HERE! IT'S THE PLACE I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

LED BY JOHANN, THE TWO YOUNG PEOPLE ENTER THE OLD CASTLE! IN THE GREAT HALL THEY PAUSE BEFORE A PORTRAIT OF THE 16TH CENTURY NOBLEMAN! THEY READ THE INSCRIPTION...
IT READS: COUNT OTTO SANDOR-1554! EXCEPT FOR THE BEARD, IT IS A PERFECT LIKENESS OF YOU, ARTHUR, ONLY YOUR NAME IS SANDERS!

MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD BACK HERE AGAIN AFTER ALL THESE CENTURIES...

AS THEY GO UPSTAIRS TO THEIR ROOM...
YOU KNOW-- I FEEL AS IF THIS WHOLE CASTLE IS FAMILIAR TO ME... AS IF I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE!
NONSENSE, ARTHUR, YOU KNOW YOU'VE NEVER BEEN OUT OF GRAND RAPIDS BEFORE!

LATER...
HELEN, YOU MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE AND REST A BIT! I'M FASCINATED BY THIS CASTLE! I'M GOING TO LOOK AROUND FOR A WHILE!

MEANWHILE, HIS BLOOD-LUST SLACKENED FOR A TIME COUNT SANDOR DESCENDS AGAIN TO THE HIDDEN CRYPT...
HELYENA, MY BELOVED, WOULD THAT YOU WERE AWAKE THE SAME TIME AS I-- JUST ONCE IN THESE MANY CENTURIES!

IT IS AS IF THAT YOUNG COUPLE ABOVE ARE THE VERY REINCARNATION OF US! HE IS MY VERY OWN DESCENDANT AND HIS BRIDE SEEMS CAST IN YOUR OWN MOLD!

THEN, HIS KEEN EARS SENSES...
...FOOTSTEPS!! CAN THAT BE JOHANN-- DISOBEYING MY ORDERS BY COMING TO THIS FORBIDDEN PLACE...?

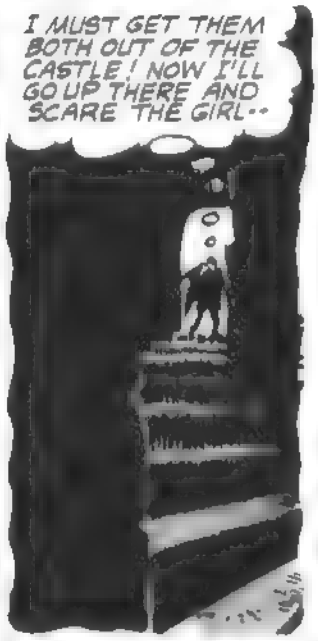
IT IS THE AMERICAN!

IF HE LOOKS IN THE CASKETS HE'LL KNOW THAT THIS IS A HAUNT OF VAMPIRES-- AND HE WOULD SPREAD THE ALARM ALL OVER THE COUNTRYSIDE! THAT WOULD BE THE END OF US!

IN DESPERATION, SANDOR LEAPS UPON THE YOUNG MAN FROM BEHIND...

HE OBTAINS POSSESSION OF THE FLASHLIGHT AND USES IT AS A WEAPON..
OOOF!

I'LL LEAVE THIS FELLOW OUT HERE IN THE COURTYARD 'TIL HE COMES TO HIS SENSES!


I MUST GET THEM BOTH OUT OF THE CASTLE! NOW I'LL GO UP THERE AND SCARE THE GIRL--

SANDOR SLIDES BACK A SECRET PANEL..
I'LL FRIGHTEN HER OUT OF HER WITS--

SENSING HIS PRESENCE THE GIRL TURNS INSTEAD OF BEING SCARED SHE THINKS HE IS HER HUSBAND!
WHY, ARTHUR, YOU STARTLED ME! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THAT BEARD AND THOSE OLD-FASHIONED CLOTHES?

SHE GENTLY TOUCHES THE MAN'S FACE...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET BACK INTO THE ATMOSPHERE OF THIS OLD CASTLE SO AUTHENTICALLY, EVEN IF IT WAS YOUR ANCESTORS'-- AI-EEE-EEE!

YOUR FACE IS ICY-CLAMMY! YOU-YOU'RE NOT ARTHUR!

YOU'RE THE MAN IN THE PORTRAIT DOWNSTAIRS-- BUT YOU'VE BEEN DEAD FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS!
EXACTLY, MY DEAR!

TERRIFIED, SHE CLIMBS INTO THE WINDOW HIGH IN THE CASTLE WALL...
Y-YOU'RE A GHOST... A DEVIL!
DON'T JUMP!

SANDOR KNOWS THAT THE DROP FROM THE WINDOW IS SHEER AND MURDEROUS, SO HE LUNGES FORWARD AND GRABS THE HYSTERICAL GIRL...
COME BACK HERE! I DON'T WANT YOU TO DIE!

HE DRAGS THE FAINTING GIRL BACK INTO THE ROOM.. THEN HE HEARS A VOICE BEHIND HIM...
EXCELLENT! NOW WE'LL BOTH FEAST ON HER BLOOD!

HELYENA!
SHE HAS LEFT HER COFFIN ON THE SAME NIGHT I LEFT MINE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOUR CENTURIES... AND THE BITTER IRONY OF IT IS THAT THIS TIME, I DON'T WANT HER HERE!

SHE HAS NOT CONQUERED HER THIRST AS I HAVE TRIUMPHED OVER MINE IN REGARD TO THESE TWO YOUNG PEOPLE! I CANNOT HARM THEM-- HE'S MY OWN DESCENDANT, AND HIS LOVELY BRIDE...

THE FEMALE VAMPIRE GLIDES FORWARD...
WE SHALL OPEN HER VEINS...
NO, HELYENA! I FORBID IT!

I MUST HAVE HER BLOOD! YOU AND I WILL SLAKE OUR THIRST, MY LOVE!

NO, I TELL YOU! LOVE CANNOT ENDURE WHEN BASED ON A FOUL CURSE SUCH AS OURS! WE ARE DAMNED, MY SWEET!

THE GIRL REVIVES FROM HER FAINT AND CLAMPS HER HAND TO HER NECK...
O-OH!

SHE RACES FROM THE ROOM...
WE MUST SLAY THAT GIRL BEFORE SHE CAN BETRAY US! SHE WILL GO TO THE VILLAGE AND SOON A MOB OF PEASANTS WILL BE UPON US!
NO--THERE IS A BETTER WAY!

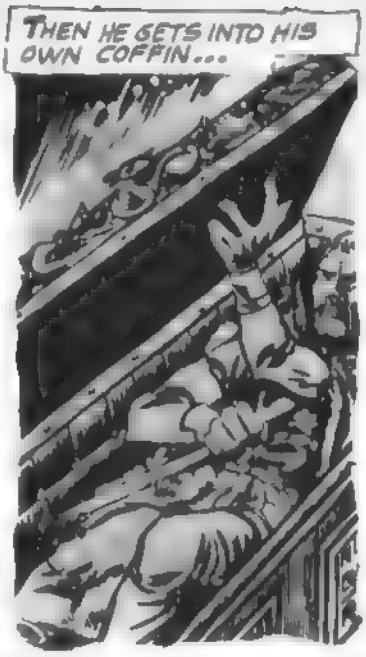
QUICKLY SEIZING HELYENA, SANDOR CARRIES HER FORCIBLY DOWN THE SECRET STAIRCASE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? PUT ME DOWN!

FROM THE DYING EMBERS OF THE FIRE IN THE ANCIENT KITCHEN, SANDOR PLUCKS TWO BIRCHWOOD STICKS WITH THEIR ENDS CHARRED TO FINE POINTS...
W-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I SHALL RELEASE US FROM OUR CURSE!

DESPITE HELYENA'S STRUGGLES, HE PUTS HER BACK INTO HER COFFIN IN THE CRYPT...
THE GIRL HAS BY NOW FOUND HER HUSBAND AND AROUSED THE VILLAGERS---THEY WILL SOON COME HERE--AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT WILL MEAN...

NO, OTTO, NO! ALL ETERNITY LIES BEFORE US, THERE IS YET TIME! GO TO THE COURTYARD... KILL THEM!
WE ARE THE UNDEAD, WHILE THEY ARE YOUNG, ALIVE AND NORMAL! IF DEATH MUST COME, LET IT COME TO US! FAREWELL, MY BELOVED!

SANDOR PLUNGES THE STAKE INTO HER HEART...
IN DEATH, THERE WILL BE PEACE... AT LAST!


THEN HE GETS INTO HIS OWN COFFIN...

...AND DRIVES THE SECOND STAKE INTO HIS OWN BREAST...

SOON... THE VILLAGERS ARRIVE..
I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE THEY ARE!
WE'RE PREPARED!

BUT IN THE TWIN COFFINS THEY FIND NO TRACE OF SANDOR AND HELYENA... JUST TWO STICKS AND TWO SMALL PILES OF VERY FINE DUST...
UGH! LET'S GET OUT OF THIS AWFUL PLACE!

SO THE NEWLYWEDS TAKE A ROOM AT THE VILLAGE INN... BUT HELYENA'S BITE HAS TAKEN EFFECT AND THAT NIGHT, AS THE FULL MOON'S RAYS SPLASH THROUGH THE WINDOWS, THE YOUNG BRIDE SINKS HER TEETH INTO HER SLEEPING HUSBAND'S NECK!...

SO YOU SEE, FOLKS.. TWO NEW VAMPIRES ARE BORN! CAN'T GET AWAY FROM THAT OLD CURSE, EH? HEH! HEH! LOOK ME UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE... I'LL HAVE ANOTHER BLOOD-CURDLING TALE TO TELL YOU...
THE END!

JOHN ANDERS WAS SURE HE HAD THE ANSWER TO WHY ACCIDENTS HAPPENED TO PEOPLE--UNTIL HE SAW THE HORROR THAT EMERGED FROM THE NETHERWORLD! IT WAS THEN THAT HIS OWN LIFE HUNG IN THE BALANCE! FOR NONE WHO MET THE CREATURES EVER ESCAPED THE...

TUNNEL CRAWLERS

ARMED WITH HIS EARTH-SHAKING KNOWLEDGE, ANDERS KNEW TO THE SECOND WHEN AN ACCIDENT WOULD HAPPEN! HE APPROACHED THE CROWDED THOROUGHFARE AS A BIRD WOULD A SNAKE...
THAT MAN DOESN'T SEE THE TRUCK COMING!
HEY! WATCH OUT FOR THAT TRUCK!
SKREECH
ANDERS HAD CLOSED HIS EYES FOR ONE TERRIBLE SECOND -- BUT HE COULD NEVER DEAFEN HIS EARS TO THE SICKENING THUD OF THE IMPACT! IT WAS THEN THAT HE SAW THE GNOME...
HEE-HEE! ANOTHER ONE!
I SAW THAT... THAT THING PUSH THE MAN TOWARDS THE TRUCK! BUT NO ONE ELSE DID!
YAEE
THUD
THE GNOME DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE! ANDERS WALKED TO ANOTHER PART OF TOWN, AND GRIMLY WATCHED AGAIN...
ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, A SAFE IS GOING TO FALL!
AND ANOTHER SHADOWY FORM MATERIALIZED ON TOP OF THE BUILDING...
JUST A SNIP, SNIP, SNIP-- AND IT WILL FLIP, FLIP, FLIP ON THE MORTAL'S HEAD! HA-HA!
WATCH OUT! OH, NO!

THIS TIME, ANDERS RESOLVED TO TRACE THAT EVIL CACKLING FIGURE! NIGHT HAD FALLEN! THE HE STILL PURSUED HIS QUARRY!
MINUTES LATER, HE HAD FOLLOWED THE STRANGE GNOME TOWARDS THE RAILROAD DEPOT! PEOPLE WERE NOW LOOKING AT HIM QUEERLY...
CRASH
APPARENTLY IT'S INVISIBLE TO EVERYONE BUT ME!
HA-HA-HEE-HEE! BACK TO THE GROTTO FOR ME!
LET THEM LOOK! I CAN'T TELL THEM OF FINDING THE SECRET OF THE AGES!
TRACK 7
HE'S GOING INTO THAT TUNNEL! I MUSTN'T LOSE HIM!
HEE-HEE! BEHOLD! IT IS SHRUMPKIN! HO! EVERYONE OUT! HEE-HEE! TELL US WHAT HAPPENED! TELL US! HA! HA!
DOWN, DOWN--EVER DOWNWARD THAT HIDEOUS FORM TRAVELED--PAST DRIPPING, OOZING LABYRINTHS OF SLIME--PAST PLOPPING WHIRLPOOLS OF FILTH--UNTIL IT CAME TO A GROTTO-LIKE CAVE...
CRUMKIN, FRUMKIN AND LUMKIN SHALL BE GLAD TO SEE ME TONIGHT! TWO MORE HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF NICELY! HA! HA!

BUT AS JOHN ANDERS LOOKED ABOUT, THE THOUGHT BECAME CLEAR TO HIM THAT HERE WAS A RACE MUCH MORE ADVANCED IN THE SCIENCES THAN MAN! FOR EVERYWHERE WERE BILLIONS AND BILLIONS OF LIGHTS AND INSTRUMENTS!
WHAT IS THIS? WHERE AM I?
SHRUMPKIN WAS SUCCESSFUL! HA! HA! DANCE--DANCE--DANCE!
...GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE -- WARN OTHERS..
IT'S A HUMAN! HURRY-- STOP HIM! HE WILL MAKE OUR EXISTENCE KNOWN! CATCH HIM! CATCH HIM!
WE SHALL EAT WELL TONIGHT!
BEHOLD! I SEE A SHADOW!
WAIT! I HEAR A SOUND! THERE'S SOMEONE HERE! ONE WHO ISN'T OF US!
SHOUT ALL YOU WANT, MORTAL! NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU! WE CANNOT LET YOU TATTLE ON US! YOUR PEOPLE MAY THINK YOU DAFT -- BUT THEN AGAIN-- THEY MAY NOT! WE HATE SURFACE PEOPLE!
NO! LET ME ALONE! HELP!
YAAAAA! PLEASE LET ME GO! I'LL DO ANYTHING!
I HAVE HIM!
GOOD! HE IS WELL-BUILT! HE'LL PROVIDE US WITH MANY MEALS! HA! HA!
DRAG HIM BACK TO THE GROTTO!

THEY PULLED AT ANDERS-- THEY SCRATCHED AT HIM--THEY CLAWED AT HIM--BUT THE DESPERATE MAN BROKE LOOSE AND RAN--RAN FOR HIS VERY LIFE!
GASP... I-I'VE GOT TO MAKE MY WAY BACK TO THE SURFACE--IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME! I'LL WIN YET! PUFF-PUFF!
GET HIM! WE'D LIKE TO EAT HIM ALIVE! BUT KILL HIM IF YOU MUST!
HE IS CHEATING US OUT OF OUR DINNER! GET HIM!
TIME WAS PRECIOUS... TIME WAS FLEETING FOR ANDERS! THE HORRIBLE HORDE WOULD BE PREPARING SOMETHING ESPECIALLY GRUESOME FOR HIM! HE HAD TO WARN THE WORLD!
THESE ARE ALL THE CHARTS! THEY MUST BELIEVE ME!
BACK THROUGH THOSE MAZE OF PASSAGEWAYS HE RAN...TILL HE MADE HIS WAY TO THE SURFACE!
GASP! GASP! I'VE DONE IT! HA! HA! I WON... I'M FREE! WE'LL SEE IF YOU CAN STOP ME!
FREE
BUT HOURS LATER...
NOW GET OUT AND STAY OUT! THE MAYOR CAN'T BE DISTURBED BY EVERY CRACKPOT THAT COMES TO SEE HIM! "ACCIDENTS BEING DELIBERATE!" GNOMES! HA!
ALL RIGHT! I'LL HAVE TO WARN THEM SOME OTHER WAY! I'LL BUY AN AD IN THE PAPER! I'LL SPEND ALL MY SAVINGS IF I MUST!
ANDERS-- JOHN ANDERS! WE'VE COME FOR YOU!
OH NO!

GASP.. GASP.. I-- I THINK I'VE LOST THEM! THEY'LL NEVER FIND ME NOW!
HELLO, JOHN ANDERS! HELLO!
THEY RUSHED TOWARD HIM--PUSHING HIM BACK... TUGGING AT HIM, SHOVING HIM UNTIL HE LOST HIS BALANCE AND FELL INTO A MANHOLE! THAT WAS THE LAST THING HE HEARD--THE SOUND OF THEIR LAUGHTER--THE TERRIBLE SOUND...
TAKE HIM!
GOODBYE, JOHN ANDERS! GOODBYE! HA! HA! HEE, HEE, HA!
YAAAAAA
THE POLICE FOUND HIM LATER! SOMEONE HAD LODGED A COMPLAINT THAT THE CESSPOOL IN THEIR YARD WAS OVERFLOWING--SOMETHING WAS CLOGGING IT!
HE MUST OF SLIPPED INTO A MANHOLE--AND WAS WASHED DOWN HERE!
JUST ANOTHER ROTTEN ACCIDENT! OH, WELL-- CALL THE WAGON!
YES! WE CAN TAKE OUT HIS LIGHT NOW! OUR MASTER SHALL BE PLEASED WITH US!
WELL--WE DIDN'T EAT HIM--BUT HE IS ONE LESS!
HA HA
WEE
AND UNDERGROUND IN THEIR GROTTO, THE STRANGE GNOMES CHORTLED IN GLEE! THEY KNEW, THAT ANDERS COULD NEVER CONQUER THEM! THEY KEPT THE LIFE SOULS OF MAN IN THOSE LIGHTS! THEIR MASTER YOU SEE, WAS... DEATH!!!
THE END

a THING of TERROR

IT WASN'T A HOAX, BUT A STORY SO STRANGE THAT NO ONE WOULD CREDIT IT! IT STARTED TEN MONTHS AGO...

HOW MANY MORE HOURS ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND IN THIS STENCH HOLE, ROY?

AS LONG AS IT TAKES, DORIS! I'M ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH THIS NEW FORMULA!

YOU'VE SAID THAT FOR TEN YEARS, WORKING ON YOUR STUPID EXPERIMENTS! WHY DON'T YOU GO OUT AND GET A JOB!

EASY, NOW, DORIS! JUST GIVE ME A LITTLE MORE TIME TO PROVE MYSELF!

BUT DORIS WOULDN'T LISTEN...

I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I THINK OF YOUR WORK!

NO! DORIS! DON'T!

YOU IMBECILE! LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE! ALL MY WORK! I OUGHT TO--

I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S AN IMBECILE!

THEN SHE THREW THE VITRIOLIC CONTENTS OF THE BEAKER AT ME...

HERE, I HOPE THIS... ROY! WHAT HAPPENED?

AAEE!

FOR A MOMENT EVERY CELL IN MY BODY WAS A MASS OF PAIN! WHEN THE AIR CLEARED...

ROY... I-I DIDN'T MEAN TO--I'M SORRY! LET ME GET A DOCTOR!

I CAN SEE MYSELF IN THE MIRROR-- DISFIGURED... SEMI-HUMAN! A FREAK! THIS IS WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO ME, DORIS, AND YOU SHALL PAY FOR IT!

NO! NO! DON'T TOUCH ME! DON'T COME NEAR ME!

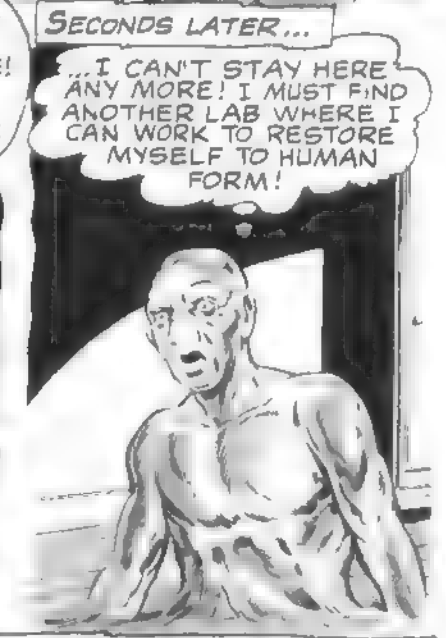
THIS WILL BE YOUR TOMB!

HE'S GONE! DISAPPEARED AS IF HE'D BEEN SWALLOWED UP!

BUT I HAD ONLY DISAPPEARED FOR A MOMENT.. IN THOSE SECONDS I DISCOVERED THAT MY BODY HAD DEVELOPED A STRANGE AND TERRIBLE POWER!
MY BODY HAS BECOME A FLUID THING, ABLE TO BLEND AT WILL WITH ANY MATERIAL! MY HANDS WILL BLEND WITH YOUR THROAT UNTIL YOU'RE DEAD!
EEAH! ROY. LET ME GO! LET ME... YARGHH!!

THE NEIGHBORS ARE COMING! I MUSTN'T BE FOUND HERE!
DORIS! WHAT'S THE MATTER?

SHE...SHE'S DEAD! ROY MUST HAVE DONE THIS!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE AND CALL THE POLICE! I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE IF THAT MANIAC RETURNS!


SECONDS LATER...
...I CAN'T STAY HERE ANY MORE! I MUST FIND ANOTHER LAB WHERE I CAN WORK TO RESTORE MYSELF TO HUMAN FORM!

WHILE OUTSIDE, THE POLICE ARRIVE...
SHE'S STRANGLED! RIGHT IN HIS WORKSHOP!
TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T SEE WHERE HE WENT!

ROY MELTED HIS BODY INTO THE TELEPHONE POLE!
OWWW! UGH! IT'S HARD TO PULL AWAY FROM MATERIALS ONCE I MERGE FOR A LENGTH OF TIME! I'LL HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT FOR MY OWN SAFETY!

THE FOOLS! WITH MY POWERS OF FUSION I HAVE A MILLION HIDING PLACES! THEY'LL NEVER FIND ME!
A FEW DAYS LATER, UNDER AN ALIAS, I APPLIED FOR A JOB...
YES, WE NEED A PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST, BUT FRANKLY--ER--YOUR APPEARANCE... I DON'T KNOW WHETHER...
I CAN'T HELP HOW I LOOK, MR. LAWRENCE! A TERRIBLE AUTO ACCIDENT! BUT... I'M AN EXCELLENT CHEMIST!
YOU'RE RIGHT, MR. HARRIS! YOUR ABILITIES SHOULD BE MY ONLY CONSIDERATION! YOU CAN START WORK TODAY!
THANK YOU, MR. LAWRENCE!
FOR A WEEK, I TURNED OUT THEIR PILLS AND POWDERS, BUT IN MY SPARE TIME...
ALL I NEED IS A FEW MORE CHEMICALS, AND I CAN CRAWL OUT OF THIS LOATHESOME BODY OF MINE!
BUT THE SMOOTH PATH TO MY RESTORATION TOOK A SUDDEN ROUGH TURN...
HARRIS! THIS ORDER BLANK! THE STRANGEST CHEMICALS I'VE EVER HEARD OF! YOU DON'T NEED THESE IN YOUR WORK!
ER--I'M WORKING ON A NEW DRUG TO MAKE MILLIONS FOR YOUR COMPANY!
YOU'VE GOT A NERVE! DOING YOUR RESEARCH ON MY TIME! I'VE GOT A GOOD MIND TO--
DON'T TOUCH IT, MR. LAWRENCE, I WARN YOU!
YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN! YOU'LL NEVER INTERFERE WITH MY WORK AGAIN!
NO! HARRIS...! PLEASE! NO! DON'T!

IN A FEW MOMENTS I HAD A CORPSE ON MY HANDS AND THERE WAS SOMEONE AT THE DOOR...
WHAT A MESS! THEY WANT LAWRENCE AND I'LL HAVE TO PRODUCE HIM! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO... BECOME LAWRENCE BY FUSING WITH HIS BODY!
WHEN THE DOOR OPENED...
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU, LAWRENCE? AND WHERE'S THAT NEW CHEMIST YOU HIRED? WE WANT TO TALK TO HIM!
ER--I JUST FIRED HIM! WE HAD AN ARGUMENT ABOUT HIS WORK AND I ORDERED HIM OUT OF THE LAB! SOME CHEMICALS HE WAS USING UPSET ME! IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF!
I'VE NEVER SEEN LAWRENCE BEHAVE LIKE THAT! WHAT DID HAPPEN TO THE NEW CHEMIST! NOBODY SAW HIM LEAVE!
I'M SURE HE'S HIDING SOMETHING FROM US! I'M GOING TO PHONE THE POLICE TO FOLLOW HIM!
I HAD THE FEELING I WAS BEING FOLLOWED! I HAD TO DROP HIS BODY BEFORE IT BECAME AN INTEGRAL PART OF ME...
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME LAWRENCE OR CARRY HIS DEAD BODY AROUND FOREVER! I'LL DROP HIM IN THIS ALLEY!
JUST STAY WHERE YOU ARE, MISTER! WE'RE POLICE! WE WANT TO LOOK AT THAT BODY LYING THERE!
...WHAT?
SUDDENLY...
STOP HIM! ...UGH!
GET OUT OF MY WAY! UNGH! YOUR BULLETS CAN'T HARM ME!
NOTHING TO HIDE ME! AH, HERE COMES A CAR... I'LL HAVE TO MERGE WITH IT!

CONTINUED ON BACK COVER

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7 FEET TALL / IN AUTHENTIC COLORS.

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Color or Black & White

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***FREE*: NEW THRILLING SENSATION**

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- Projects color or black and white
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HAVE ALL THE FUN OF PRIVATE MOVIES NOW AT THIS LOW PRICE

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and SILENCER

FREE 50 Reusable 22 Cal. Pellets only $1.25

Rapid firing 22 cal. fully 9 inches long with the look and feel of an "undercover" automatic. Snap the "silencer" on or remove it for fast combat-type target practice. FREE 50 reusable 22 cal. pellets and supply of targets. Money back guarantee if not satisfied. Just send $1.25 plus 35c for postage and handling.

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MONSTER GHOST

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OVER 7 FEET TALL

Scare the daylights out of your "victim" as this terrifying life size ghost hovers and darts over him. Can be controlled up to 50 feet away so you can hide while watching your victim. Complete instructions included.

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With Combination Lock Only You Can Open

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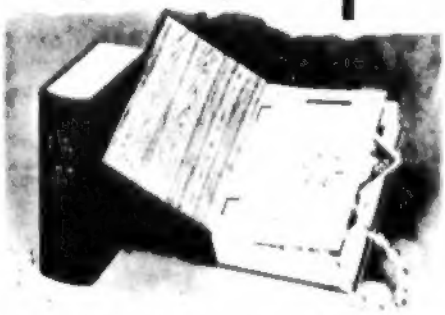

The Secret Book Safe looks just like any book so no one would think to look for valuables in it. But even chance discovery leaves your possessions safe — securely locked by a combination only YOU know — because YOU yourself have set it. Simple instructions show you how. Tough under structure is covered with simulated leather binding to look just like a real book. Just send $1.00 plus 35c postage and handling for each book safe you want. Money back if you are not satisfied.

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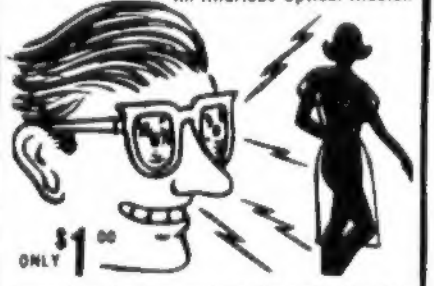

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- OVER 15 MOVING PARTS
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Automatic full size model of a Luger Automatic pistol —contains over 15 moving parts. Loads 8 complete rounds which snap into the hard butt simulating a Luger. Fires 8 bullet shaped pellets. Has automatic slide action. **Made of heavy, high-impact styrene with amazing attention to detail.**

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...HE'S GONE...BUT HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN THIS ROOM! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!
YEAH! THAT CRAZY POWER HE HAS MAKES HIM ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO SPOT!
THERE HE GOES! HE CAME RIGHT OUT OF THE DESK! AFTER HIM!
MORE POLICE COMING! I'LL NEVER GET AWAY FROM HERE UNLESS--THAT TREE! I COULD FUSE MYSELF WITH THAT TREE UNTIL THEY GO AWAY!
I WATCHED WITH TERROR FROM MY BARK-ENCIRCLED HIDEOUT AS A TIGHT RING WAS DRAWN ABOUT THE BUILDING...
HARRIS IS SOMEWHERE WITHIN THIS SMALL AREA! WE HAVE HIM TRAPPED! WE'LL HOLD OUT HERE UNTIL DAWN! NO ONE CAN LEAVE WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED!
OH NO!
THE TIGHT, ARMED CIRCLE STOOD GUARD UNTIL THE SUN ROSE...
I GUESS HARRIS MANAGED TO ESCAPE AFTER ALL!
AT LAST! NOW I MUST TEAR LOOSE FROM THIS TREE AND FIND ANOTHER WAY TO COMPLETE MY EXPERIMENT!
I STRAINED EVERY MUSCLE, TO RIP LOOSE FROM THE ROOTS WHICH HELD ME...
UNGH! AGGH! (PANT)... I-- I CAN'T TEAR AWAY! MY BODY HAS FUSED WITH THE TREE! I'M NO LONGER ROY HARRIS! I'M A TREE... A TWISTED OLD TREE!
I WATCHED THE SEASONS COME AND GO, NEVER GIVING UP HOPE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE WILL LISTEN TO ME... THAT SOMEONE WILL FREE ME!
AAAOOOWWRAWW!
The End